

American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) Criteria Dimensions

	LEVEL I	LEVEL II	LEVEL III	LEVEL IV
	OUTPATIENT TRMT (LIKE SART)	INTENSIVE OUTPATIENT TRMT (LIKE OATS)	MEDICALLY MONITORED INTENSIVE INPATIENT TRMT (LIKE 1 ST STEP)	MEDICALLY MANAGED INTENSIVE INPATIENT TRMT. (LIKE VAMC INPT MEDICAL DETOX)
Acute Intoxication Withdrawal Potential	No withdrawal risk so likely no alcohol or drugs x 1 wk.	Minimal withdrawal risk	Severe withdrawal risk but manageable in Level III.	Severe withdrawal risk.
Biomedical Conditions + c Complications	None or very stable.	None or non-distracting from addiction trmt.	Requires medical monitoring but not intensive.	Requires 24-hour medical nursing care.
Emotional + Behavioral Conditions	None or very stable.	Mild severity w/ distractible from recovery.	Moderate severity needing a 24-hour structured setting.	Severe problems requiring 24-hour psychiatric care with concomitant SA trmt.
Treatment Acceptance + Resistance	Willing to cooperate but needs motivating and monitoring strategies.	Resistance high enough to require structured prog. but not so high as to render outpt trmt. ineffective.	Resistance high despite negative consequences + needs intensive motivating strategies in 24-hour structure.	Problems in this dimension do not qualify patient for Level IV trmt.
Relapse Potential	Able to maintain abstinence + recovery goals with minimal support.	Intensification of addiction symptoms and high likelihood of relapse w/o close monitoring .	Unable to control use despite active participation in less intensive care + needs 24-hour structure.	Problems in this dimension do not qualify patient for Level IV trmt.
Recovery Environment	Supportive environment + pt has skills to cope.	Environment unsupportive but with structure. pt. can cope.	Environment dangerous for recovery + needs removal from it; outpt trmt. obstacles.	Problems in this dimension do not qualify patient for Level IV trmt.
Referrals Process	SART Consult	ATS Consult	ATS Consult	Psych or medical VAMC admission per indiv. case.